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as Fechner, J. von Kries, Czuber, and Blaschke are explained and criticised in non-mathematical terms. We have here a comprehensive, up-to-date treatment of statistical method that, if translated, would do much to vitalize instruction in statistics and to advance the knowledge of scientific statistical method in the United States.

WARREN MILTON PERSONS.

Dartmouth College.

Lehrbuch der Politischen Arithmetick. By WILHELM LUDWIG, Docent in the Vienna Handels-Akademie. (Vienna: Carl Fromme, 1908. Pp. iv, 188, xxxii. 3.80 kr.)

The author states in the preface that "by political arithmetic is to be understood that part of mathematics, which above all is concerned with the mathematical problems of state and social institutions, so far as these problems do not belong to the province of *kaöfmannischen Arithmetic.*" In developing this idea he says that such problems as come into being through the administration of state revenues, the strengthening of state credit, life insurance, methods of interest paying, annuities, methods of extinguishing debt, amortization, probability, lotteries, etc., are the subject matter of political arithmetic. Had the title of the book been An Elementary Text-book on the Mathematics of Interest and Life Insurance it would have been completely descriptive of the matter treated.

The book contains good, clear explanations of the fundamentals of compound interest, the theory of probability and life insurance mathematics. Special attention is paid to discount (antizipative Verzinsung). Tables of r^n, v^n, $\Sigma^n r^n$, and a_n for interest paid in advance and in arrears are given, as well as the usual commutation columns based on German and on English experience. There is nothing new in the book for one who has been over the elementary principles of life insurance.

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